

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(Attorney Docket No.: 109878.124)

PATENTS 2173  
JFW

Applicant(s): Ferrari, et al.  
Serial No.: 09/961,131  
Filed: September 21, 2001  
For: SCALABLE HIERARCHICAL DATA-DRIVEN NAVIGATION  
SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR INFORMATION RETRIEVAL  
Group Art Unit: 2173  
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

8/24/04  
Date

Amanda Riley  
Amanda Riley

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

Commissioner:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified patent application are the following documents:

- 1.) Seventh Information Disclosure Statement;
- 2.) Form PTO-1449, including 7 documents; and
- 3.) Return Postcard.

Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment in connection with this matter to Deposit account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 24, 2004

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**PATENT**

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**SEVENTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner:

Applicants and their attorney are aware of the following publications and information listed on the attached PTO Form 1449, and in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97 hereby submit these documents for the Examiner's consideration.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(3), Applicants hereby make of record the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

It is respectfully requested that the information above be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and that the publications be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. In this regard, it is requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 with the next Patent Office Communication.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made and does not constitute an admission that the listed documents are material to patentability or that the listed documents are prior art.

09/961,131  
Ferrari, et al.

If it should be determined that any of the listed documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

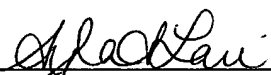
Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits and is therefore submitted as both timely and proper; therefore, no fees are believed to be due.

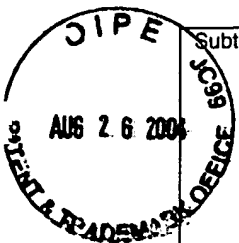
The Commissioner, however, is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: August 24, 2004

  
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Ayla A. Lari  
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Subt. Form PTO-1449				Docket Number 109878.124		Application Number 09/961,131	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE IN AN APPLICATION</b>  (Use several sheets if necessary)				Applicant Ferrari, et al.			
				Filing Date September 21, 2001		Group Art Unit 2773	
Sheet	1	OF	1				

U.S. Patent Documents						
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	US2002/0083039	6/27/02	Ferrari, et al.	707	1	10/31/02
	US2002/0095405	7/18/02	Fujiwara	707	3	1/18/01
	6,226,745	5/1/01	Wiederhold	713	200	
	6,466,918	10/15/02	Spiegel, et al	705	27	
	6,266,649	7/24/01	Linden, et al.	705	26	

Foreign Patent Documents							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	0 827 063 A1	3/4/98	EP				
	1 050 830 A2	11/8/00	EP				

Other Documents (Including Author, Title, Date Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609: Draw Line through citation if not conformance and not considered. Include copy with next communication to applicant.	